Trade agreement with Morocco

3639. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and Morocco have recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen bilateral trade and boost the Indian exports to Morocco; and

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the Memorandum?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KURSHEED): (a) and (b) The Federation of Indian Export *Organisations, New Delhi and the* Casablanca Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Morocco signed a Memorandum of Understaning (MOU) at Casablanca on the 25th November, 92. According to the MOU both the Organisations have agreed to promote bilateral trade, exchange inromation pertaining to exports, imports and related policies, publish information of exporters and importers by each other and to promote and assist each other for exchange of business delegations, seminars and other activities.

World bank loan for tea industry

3640. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tea Industry in the country is looking for the World Bank loan for increasing the area of plantation of tea for export; and

(b) if so, what is the response from the World Bank for the demand for loan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KURSHEED): (a) and (b) No proposal for development of tea industry has so far been posed to the World Bank for their financing.

Export to E.C.C. Countries

3641. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the value of India's exports to European Community countries;

(b) whether the European Community countries intend to adopt ISO 9000 certificates or BIS 14000 for trade from 1993;

(c) if so, how many Indian companies have so far been able to get this certificate;

(d) the details of the specific requirements of this certificate; and

(e) India's strategy to help Indian producers to get this certificate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Rs. 11,857.76 crores in 1991-92 and Rs. 5,681.98 crores from April, 1992 to August, 1992.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) So far twenty two companies have obtained the Quality System certificate.

(d) To obtain the certificate, a company should document and implement the procedures for all activities affecting Quality.

(e) BIS has introduced Quality Systems Certification Scheme through the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986. To assist the industry towards preparation for certification, BIS has started a number of pre-certification services in understanding and implementing the requirements of ISO 9000/IS:14000 series of Standards.

Proposals cleared by FIPB

3642. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals cleared by the FIPB, so far;

(b) out of these how many are for consumer goods; and

(c) what is the total foreign investment proposed in the project cleared so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) 162 proposals recommended by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board have been approved till 30th November, 1992.

(b) Of the 162 proposals approved, 47 are in sectors like food processing industries, fermentation industries, textiles, leather goods, paper and paper products, automobiles, electric and engineering goods etc.

(c) These proposals envisage direct foreign investment of Rs. 2530.22 crores.

Export of Ayurvedic drugs

3643. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the increasing popularity and demand of Ayurvedic drugs in the foreign countries;

(b) if so, the countries where such drugs, both prepared and raw are exported, country-wise and drug-wise; and

(c) what incentives are being given/ proposed to be given for promotion of export of such drugs?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c) Although many of the Ayurvedic, Unani and Siddha medicines have found favour with Countries such as USA, Malaysia, Italy, Japan, Denmark, France, Canada, Belgium exports of these medicines have not been very significant, particularly due to problems connected with lengthy and cumbersome procedure for registration of drugs laid down by the health authorities of overseas countries. Moreover, the manufacturers of Ayurvedic, Unani and Siddha medicines of not have the same kind of clinical data to back up their products as is available for allopathic medicines. Many countries have restrictions on use of this group of medicines because of presence of metal oxides in them.

Details regarding itemwise exports of Ayurvedic drugs to various countries are not available.

In order to popularise the use of Ayurvedic medicines in overseas countries, the Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics Export Promotion Council (CHEMEXCIL), Bombay, in association with a renowned Ayurvedic Research Centre have prepared a monograph on 'Selected Medicinal Plants' for publicity abroad and printing literature on Ayurvedic medicines in different foreign languages. The Council are also undertaking all other usual export promotion measures such as sending promotional teams abroad and arranging buyer-seller meets etc. to boost exports from this sector.

Restrictions on Export of Agricultural Produce

3644. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the details of restrictions, prohibitions, levies, charges imposed by Government on the export of agricultural produce?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): Cess service charges, etc., are levied under provisions of the following Acts of Parliament, on the export of agricultural commodities:

(1) The Agricultural Produce Cess act, 1940 (27 of 1940);

(2) Agricultural & Processed Food Products Cess Act, 1985 (3 of 1986);

(3) Spices Cess act, 1986 (11 of 1986)

(4) Tobacco Cess act, 1975 (26 of 1975)